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Practitioner's Docket No.: 967\_023

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Koichi Komoda

Serial No.: 10/031,360

Art Unit: 2615

Filed: January 18, 2002

Examiner: James A. Fletcher

For: PLAYBACK/RECORDING APPARATUS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 13, 2004.

*Susanne C. Aregano*  
Susanne C. Aregano

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.97, 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the reference listed on Form PTO-1449 is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirements under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an English-language abstract.

37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii) states that if no translation is submitted, the Examiner will consider the information in view of the concise explanation and insofar as it is understood on its face, e.g., drawings, chemical formulas, English language abstracts, in the same manner that non-English language information in Office search files is considered by examiners in conducting searches. "The duty of candor does not require that the applicant translate every foreign reference, but only that the applicant refrain from submitting partial translations and concise explanations that it knows will misdirect the examiner's attention from the reference's relevant teaching." 204F.3d at 138, 54 USPQ2d at 1008.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. §1.104(a) and §1.105 concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that this reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

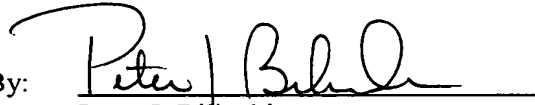
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

Date: September 13, 2004

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Form PTO 1449  
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

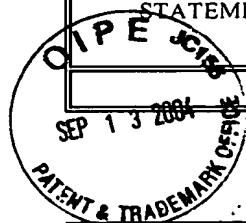
Atty Docket No. 967 023

Serial No. 10/031,360

Applicant Koichi Komoda

Filing Date January 18, 2002

Group 2615



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam.<br>Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub<br>Class | Filing Date |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|    | Document Number | Date        | Country | Class | Sub<br>Class | Translation | Abstract |
|----|-----------------|-------------|---------|-------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| AJ | 2001-125833     | May 2, 2001 | JP      |       |              |             | X        |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)

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| Examiner | Date Considered |  |

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.